

discrimination. None of the recent tests, such as Abderhalden's Test for Pregnancy, Much-Holzmann's "Psycho-reaction" and the Cobra venom reactions, are neglected.

The work shows a lack of the author's personality, important minor details are often passed over and cautions and sources of error are generally omitted, and in this does not meet the requirements as a technical hand-book for novitiates in Serologic Study. The Serologist has generally familiarized himself with the original contributions and criticisms. The book stands as a good catalog in abstract of the methods embraced in its title.

E. A. V.

Diseases of the Ear. By Phillip D. Kerrison, M. D. Published by J. P. Lippincott. 1913. Price, \$5.00.

Recently so many text books on Otology have appeared in which the reviewer looks in vain for anything approaching originality, that the present volume comes as a distinct surprise. The book is filled from cover to cover with new ideas and plain common sense, and there is no repetition of vague views on the treatment of certain conditions, which progressive otologists now recognize as advancing, in spite of the pessimistic statements in some of our most modern text books.

To the American School of Otology belongs the credit for the renewal of interest in the treatment of chronic catarrhal deafness. On turning to the chapter on this subject, one is not disappointed in finding, not only a note of optimism running through the chapter, but also some sensible information as to the method of combating this insidious disease. Yankauer, Holmes and other Americans, have certainly thrown some new light on the subject of the influence of tubal catarrh in catarrhal deafness and the scattered results are splendidly epitomized here.

No work in English, up to the appearance of the present volume, gives us a properly digested resume of the immense German literature on the question of the pathology and treatment of labyrinthine conditions. Here we find not only the whole subject of physiology, but the far more difficult one of functional testing so clearly explained by series of original diagrams and figures that one can really gain a clear mental picture of this intricate subject.

H. H.

The Modern Treatment of Nervous and Mental Diseases. By White and Jelliffe. Volume 1. Published by Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia.

The nature of the subjects and the renown of the authors of the various chapters considered, makes the volume highly desirable to both the specialist and to the general practitioner.

Those interested especially in neurology should acquaint themselves with these monographs, not only because of the highly scientific methods of prophylaxis and the treatment of the various mental disorders set forth, but because of the extensive bibliography following the more important chapters.

The sections on eugenics and feeble mindedness are thorough and represent the last word on the subject. It is good to see the Binet Simon scale for intelligence given such a prominent place in the latter chapter.

The general arrangement of the various chapters could be greatly improved by grouping together the various types of psychoses instead of interposing sections on disturbances of glands of internal secretions, traumatic neuroses.

Dr. Meyer's chapter on Paranoid States is most excellent. Cushing's work is largely drawn upon in the discussion of the disorders of the pituitary body and his illustrations used.

The work as a whole is noteworthy and contains a wealth of general information that makes reading it very interesting.

J. M. WOLFSOHN, M. D.

The Catarrhal and Suppurative Diseases of the Accessory Sinuses of the Nose. By Rose Hall Skillern, M. D., Professor of Laryngology, Medico-Chirurgical College; Laryngologist to the Rush Hospital, etc., J. B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia and London. 1913. 247 illustrations, 5 plates, and one transparency. Price, \$5.00.

A very welcome and timely book, inasmuch as the sinuses are now claiming recognition of their importance in the etiology of many hitherto obscure troubles of the head. The author takes great pains to make clear the absolute and relative anatomy of this rather difficult region, and the illustrations used are both profuse in number, and very useful toward the understanding of the topography. It would be more convenient if the illustrations and text always kept step with each other, as it is annoying to be obliged to keep turning the pages backward and forward while reading the legend of an illustration. The different methods of operating are well described, and the author's choice is indicated. If your reviewer may be allowed a criticism, it is a condemnation of the liberal use of strong solutions of cocain, and the small use made of the much safer novocain. The references to the literature are given with admirable fulness, and that alone would make the book worth having. Old methods claim very little space, and the author, after impartially describing the best methods in use at present, gives a very frank criticism of the same, as well as of the many myths and false theories that have intruded themselves in this domain. The suction method, for instance, finds no favor with the author, in which he will, I think, be upheld by many rhinologists. The repetitions in the book are numerous, a failing shared by many other recent works on this subject; in the preface the author speaks of these repetitions, and says that it is done to impress the student, or to obviate the necessity of continually referring to other sections; to my mind there is a superabundance of these repetitions, and, especially when the repetition occurs shortly after the original, the tendency is more towards confusion than lucidity.

The book work is excellent in every way, and is another tribute to the excellence of the well-known publishing house.

M. W. F.

Review of "Epidemic Cerebrospinal Meningitis."

By Abraham Sophian, C. V. Mosby Co., 1913.

This little volume is a valuable and authoritative exposition of our present knowledge of epidemic meningitis. The writer has in a masterly way written a complete and practical treatise of the disease viewed from every aspect. The value of the book rests not so much upon his citation of authorities and statistics, although these are excellently well chosen, but particularly upon the fact that he has probably had the largest experience, according to Flexner, of any man with the serum treatment of meningitis. The style of the writer together with the newness of the subject of which he treats tend to sustain the interest of the reader in a way only too rare in books dealing with the science of medicine.

In a prefatory chapter upon etiology there is found an historical sketch tracing the history of the disease through four epidemiographical periods beginning with 1805 to about 1884. While this is as full as the purposes of the book warrant, one could wish that the chapter might be supplemented by a description of the horrors of the ravages of some of the epidemics as Defoe described the great plague of London. The subject of etiology is thoroughly considered, and he touches upon the

importance of the consideration of overcrowding and general hygiene in a very emphatic manner. The bacteriology of the meningococcus and its allied organisms is considered, and the interesting relation of the activities of the pseudomeningococcus, Neisser-gonococcus, micrococcus catarrhalis, micrococcus pharyngis siccus and the chromogenic Gram-negative cocci are fully dealt with, as well as experimental meningitis. He points out the comparative ease with which the examination of carriers may be carried out. Then follows a chapter upon symptomatology. He considers the disease primarily as a bacteremia with subsequent localization in the meninges, making clear in which stage subcutaneous use of the anti-toxin may be of service, and why after meningitis is established it should be given intra-durally. He points out the important significance of a dull tympanic note obtained on percussion of the skull at the fronto-parietal region (Macewen's sign) in older children and adults, and refers to it later in the reports of his numerous cases. Among the later symptoms the importance of recognizing hydrocephalus is discussed and the importance of this rather frequent complication is made manifest. The chapter on laboratory diagnosis deals not only with the method of examining the spinal fluid, but also the blood, urine, herpes and other material. One of the impressive observations the author has to make is that by carefully observing the blood pressure during lumbar puncture and the administration of serum the accidents which sometimes occur during and after the operation may be practically entirely avoided. His statistics are so convincing upon this point as to make it appear that to omit blood pressure readings is to be careless of the interests of the patient.

In the final chapter upon treatment is reflected the vast experience of the writer, and in careful detail are found the modes of dealing, among other things, with the more common spinal types, and also that unfortunate complication, posterior basis meningitis in which the ventricles of the brain should be drained with the administration of the serum intra-cerebrally. The knowledge of this procedure should be possessed at all times in dealing with epidemic meningitis, as undoubtedly by the more or less simple technic described a certain proportion of cases otherwise fatal may be saved.

Of peculiar importance is the matter of quarantine. The recognition of carriers in convalescents and contacts by means of cultures of the throat render the problem of quarantine a comparatively easy one if attacked in a systematic manner. The forcible presentation of this is a fortunate feature of the book.

Upon the whole the writer is to be complimented upon having written probably the best work upon this subject that has appeared.

"Anesthetics and Their Administration." By Sir Frederick W. Hewitt, Fourth Edition. Published by Macmillan Co., Ltd., London, 1912. Price \$5.00 net.

In the introduction of the fourth edition of Hewitt's *Anesthetics* the author states that the revolutionary changes that have recently taken place in the practice of anesthesia has necessitated a re-writing of large sections and the addition of two new chapters—one on local and regional anaesthesia and the other on the medico-legal aspects of surgical anesthesia.

The chapter on the physiology of anesthesia is practically exhaustive as regards the results of recent research, and those on the selection of the anesthetic and on the causation and treatment of accidents invaluable to surgeons and anesthetists. The section on nitrous oxide falls short of the general excellence of the rest of this work which for so long maintained its place as the standard authority on anesthetics. Dr. Hewitt has ap-

parently not been influenced by the success that American surgeons have had with nitrous oxide-oxygen anesthesia in major surgery, and this method, the most revolutionary change in the practice of anesthesia, is given small space and is commended only for minor surgery. Dr. Crile's work alone has proven this method to be one of the most remarkable advances in modern surgery and his results are being confirmed daily by surgeons all over the United States. None of the newer types of apparatus for the administration of nitrous oxide is described—possibly the lack of adequate appliances has had much to do with the failure of British surgeons to appreciate the value of this anesthetic. Notwithstanding this omission the work remains the best on the subject and indispensable to the student of anesthetics. M. E. B.

LANE LECTURES.

The fourteenth series of the Lane Medical Lectures will be given by Prof. Sir Edward Schäfer, Professor of Physiology, University of Edinburgh. These lectures will be upon "The Functions of the Ductless Glands Especially in Relation to other Secreting Organs." They will be delivered in the evenings at eight o'clock on September 3, 4, 5, 8 and 9, in the Lane Hall of the Stanford University Medical Department, Sacramento street near Webster, San Francisco, Cal.

PHYSICIANS' COLLECTION GUIDE.

This is a little book published by Mr. Lewis P. White, of Los Angeles, for the benefit of physicians and should be of great value to them. It gives some excellent advice on the matter of keeping and collecting accounts, styles of letters to be used in asking for the payment of bills, etc., and also has a digest of the laws of the various States referring to the subject. It will certainly prove to be worth its small cost if the purchaser will but take the trouble to follow the good advice given.

INTERESTING REPORTS.

The Chemical Laboratory of the A. M. A., has just issued its Fifth annual report and the little volume is of great interest. It contains the analysis of a number of frauds and fakes such as Sanatogen, Resor-Bisnol, Midol, Neurito, etc. It can be had for 50 cents by addressing the Association, 535 Dearborn avenue, Chicago, Ills. and is well worth the money.

BOOK PUBLISHERS IN SAN FRANCISCO.

We learn that Stacey and Waite are going to begin the publication of medical books in San Francisco and that they are desirous of getting into communication with prospective authors. If you are contemplating the writing of a medical book, correspond with them and see whether you can not have the book published as well at home as abroad.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR CANCER RESEARCH.

At the Annual Meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research, May 5, 1913, the following resolution (the report of the Committee on Statistics and Public Education) was unanimously adopted:

It is the sentiment of this Association that:

(1) The present instruction of medical students in the symptoms and early diagnosis of cancer is seriously deficient.

(2) The medical curriculum should include special lectures in the clinical departments dealing specifically with this subject.

(3) The universities should provide competent lecturers in this subject to address the local medical societies.

(4) The Associate Members of the Association